

BALD JACK ROSE ON STAND IN BECKER CASE—TELLS STORY

New York, May 12.—Bald Jack Rose, star witness for the state, in its efforts to send Charles Becker, former police lieutenant to the electric chair for plotting the murder of gambler Herman Rosenthal, took the stand today shortly before noon.

Bald as an egg, Rose presented a peculiar picture. Heavy rings circled his dark eyes as he leaned forward in the witness chair answering in a low voice the questions preliminary to the whole disclosure of what he alleges was Becker's murder plot.

Becker leaned forward in his chair when Rose took the stand and showed as the lines deepened in his face that he realized the climax of his case was near.

Led by District Attorney Whitman, Rose began the original story of the negotiations with Becker. He said the then "Czar of the Tenderloin" wanted Rosenthal killed because his "squeals" to Whitman lessened Becker's safety.

Immediately before Rose took the stand, William Shapiro, driver of the gray "murder car," from which the four gunmen leaped to kill Rosenthal, told his story. Briefly he went over the facts of the tragedy. His most important testimony, however, related to a conversation between the four gunmen in his car as they neared the scene of the murder.

Shapiro testified:

"I heard one of the boys, I think Whitey Lewis, say these words: 'Have the chauffeur turn his car around and wait. The cops are all fixed. Becker fixed 'em. Everything is all right.'"

Martin T. Manton, Becker's chief counsel, fought hard against the introduction of Becker's name. His efforts were of no avail. Justice Seabury allowed the witness' statement to go on record and Becker had lost his first point.

FORCIBLE DISARMAMENT IN COLORADO BEGINS TOMORROW

Trinidad, Col., May 12.—Forcible disarmament of civilians in the Southern Colorado strike zone who are not entitled to bear arms will begin at 5 p. m. tomorrow, according to a proclamation by Colonel James Lockett, of the Eleventh United States Cavalry, posted throughout the zone today. Coal strikers, mine guards or others who have not voluntarily surrendered their weapons at that hour may be searched.

Lockett also issued a proclamation defining the government's policy with respect to reopening of mines. It held that mines closed when the strike commenced must remain closed during the occupancy of the strike zone by federal troops.

Mines which were closed by the violence of April 20 and the four days of fighting which followed, may reopen with the forces of men employed when the fighting commenced.

The coroner's jury which investigated the battle of Forbes April 29, when 11 mine guards and strike-breakers were slain, has returned a verdict finding the men "came to their deaths from gunshot wounds inflicted by weapons in the hands of striking coal miners."

Washington, May 12.—Reopening any mines now closed at Canon City or Walsenburg or in Boulder county, Colorado, would inject into the strike situation a new and dangerous element, according to Sec'y of War Garrison, who declared that conditions might easily be made serious if any change is made before the strike troubles are settled.

New York, May 12.—"Mother" Jones, the "angel of the miners," is in New York to see John D. Rockefeller, Jr., that she might tell him of the actual conditions in the Colorado mine districts.

Holland pays old age pensions to 80,000 persons over 70.